

ABSTRACT

The invention relates to mammalian receptor tyrosine kinases designated developmental tyrosine kinases (Dtk). Dtk are expressed in multipotential haematopoietic cells, in embryonic stem cells, in brain tissue and in testis, but are not expressed in mature lineage-restricted haematopoietic cells.

The invention provides full-sequence Dtk s as well as extracellular receptor domains of such Dtk s. The invention further provides nucleic acid molecules encoding such Dtk s, vectors containing DNA encoding such Dtk s, ligands which bind to such Dtk s, and methods of therapeutic and/or prophylactic treatment employing either the ligands or extracellular receptor domains.